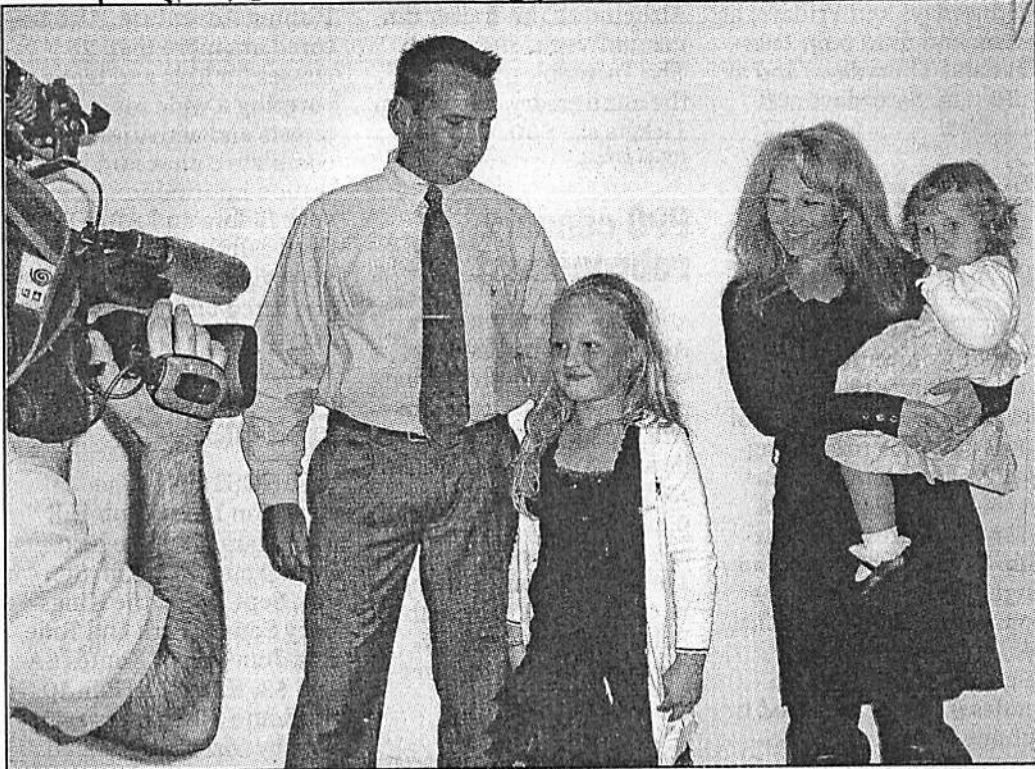


Duxbury Reporter September 23, 2011 pp. 1-8



A smiling Arianna Parker, 7, joined by her father, Scott, mother Deborah and little sister, Devenny, accepts praise for her actions of July 12, when she called 911 after finding her father in physical distress. STAFF PHOTO/KATHRYN KOCH

CALM UNDER PRESSURE

A hero's honor

Girl honored for
calling 911
when her father
needed her help

By Kathryn Koch
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DUXBURY - At 7 years old, Arianna Parker has earned the honor of being called a hero.

When her father, Scott Parker, was incapacitated by heat exhaustion following a long day in the sun and his martial arts class July 12, quick-acting Arianna dialed 911 around 9:15 that night. Arianna stayed on the phone, guiding firefighters and police officers to their home.

"She's a special little girl,"

her proud father said.

Both the Board of Selectmen and the Massachusetts 911 Department honored Arianna Monday night for her remarkable response that enabled her father to make a full and complete recovery.

Scott credits Arianna's martial arts training for her ability to stay calm, although he could hear the fear in her voice. He said her karate training inspires character, composure and confidence.

"I think Arianna studying for the past three years played a pivotal role in her being able to stay under control and handle things the way she did," he said.

Her response, he said, was intuitive. When Arianna saw his struggle that night, she



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asked him, "Daddy, are you all right?" and they worked together, Scott recalled, to seek help.

"She did it like a champ," he said.

Police Chief Matthew Clancy praised Arianna for her actions as he recalled that night in July.

"In our estimation, Arianna is definitely worthy of tremendous praise and our thanks," he said.

Arianna, accompanied by her father, her mother, Deb-

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HERO

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arah, and her younger sister, 1-year-old Devenny, along with her grandparents Carol and Jim Gallagher, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from selectmen and several gifts from Massachusetts 911. Among the gifts was a jar of lifesavers candies.

After listening to the tape of her 911 call and thinking of his own 8-year-old, Clancy it's a real tearjerker to have heard how well Arianna performed under pressure.

"It was truly remarkable," he said.

Scott and Deborah also had high praise for the first responders who responded to the 911 call for helping Arianna stay calm and for the

care they provided.

The Massachusetts 911 Departments also commended Arianna for her brave decision to call 911 so her father could receive medical assistance. Program Director Monna Wallace said state officials are also proud of Arianna for her brave decision to call 911 and request medical assistance for her father.

"You're a role model for all the children your age," she said.

After the meeting, Arianna was interviewed for the evening news, and before school Tuesday morning, the second-grader watched the footage with her parents. Scott said it was fantastic that so many people wanted to honor Arianna.

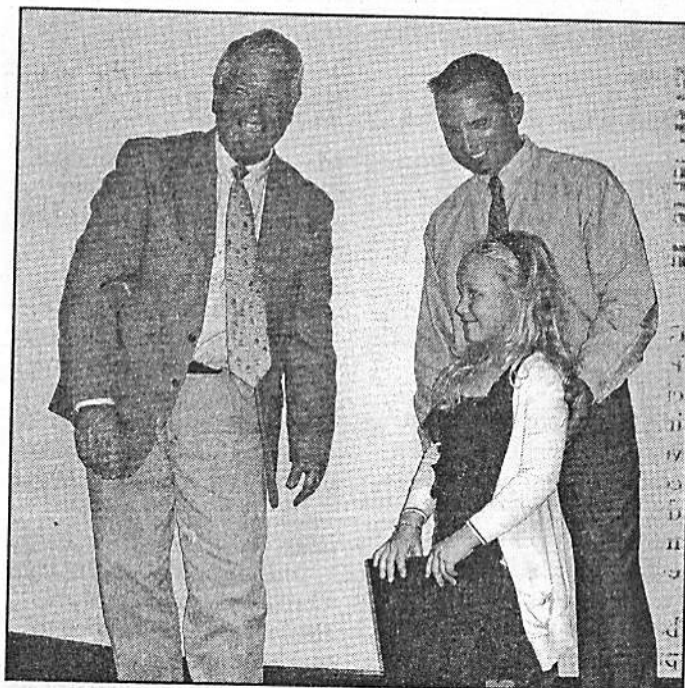
As the Certificate of Appreciation from the select-



Massachusetts 911 Department Programs Director Monna Wallace presents Arianna Parker, 7, with a series of gifts for her 911 actions.

men says, "Although she was under emotional distress from her father's condition, Arianna managed to remain calm, answer Officer (Jim) Tougas'

questions, and to provide very important information. Arianna handled a very adult situation with distinction, and we commend her for it."



Selectmen Chairman Shawn Dahlen presents a hero's certificate to Arianna Parker, 7, along with her father, Scott. STAFF PHOTOS/KATHRYN KOCH